

**I. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the first paragraph at page 9 with the following amended paragraph:

[first paragraph on page 9] hybridomas. The hybridomas were further cloned by limiting dilution using techniques that have become standard since the pioneering work of Kohler and Milstein. In a preferred embodiment, surviving hybridomas were screened for antibody directed to cariogenic organisms by ELISA assay against microtiter plates coated with formalinized bacterial cell material. Positive supernatants were subjected to further screening to identify clones that secrete antibodies with the greatest affinity for the cariogenic organisms. In a preferred embodiment, clones with titers at least three times higher than background are screened again using immunoprecipitation with denatured cell wall material from *S. mutans*. In a preferred embodiment, three clones were identified which bound detectably only to *S. mutans* strains ATCC25175, LM7, OMZ175 and ATCC31377. These clones were deposited with the American Type Culture Collection, located at 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, Virginia 20110-2209 on August 25, 1998 receiving Deposit Numbers HB 12599 (SWLA1), HB 12560 (SWLA2), and HB 12558 (SWLA3). United States patent application serial number 09/378,247.